

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 1675

Introduced by Assembly Members Nation and Richman

February 22, 2005

An act to add Section 14105.32 to the Welfare and Institutions Code, relating to Medi-Cal.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1675, as introduced, Nation. Medi-Cal: contract drug list: generic drugs.

Existing law provides for the Medi-Cal program, which is administered by the State Department of Health Services and under which qualified low-income persons receive health care benefits. Under existing law, the Director of Health Services maintains a Medi-Cal contract drug list of drugs approved for treatment of beneficiaries under the Medi-Cal program.

This bill would provide that a drug, other than a generic drug, shall not be included on the Medi-Cal contract drug list unless it can be demonstrated that the drug will lead to patient outcomes that are better than the outcomes achieved with a generic drug or drugs for the same condition. The bill would provide that a drug that is not available through the Medi-Cal contract drug list may be available through the treatment authorization request process. The bill would require a Center for Quality Medicine selected by the Department of Managed Health Care to develop guidelines for the treatment authorization request process.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.
State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

- 1 SECTION 1. Section 14105.32 is added to the Welfare and
2 Institutions Code, to read:
3 14105.32. (a) (1) A drug, other than a generic drug, shall not
4 be included in the Medi-Cal list of contract drugs unless it can be
5 demonstrated that the drug will lead to patient outcomes that are
6 better than the outcomes achieved with a generic drug or drugs
7 for the same condition.
8 (2) The Center for Quality Medicine selected by the
9 Department of Managed Health Care may make findings with
10 respect to demonstrations of comparative patient outcome for
11 purposes of this subdivision, which findings shall be presumed
12 correct.
13 (b) (1) A drug that is not included in the Medi-Cal contract
14 drug list may be available through the treatment authorization
15 request process.
16 (2) The Center for Quality Medicine selected by the
17 Department of Managed Health Care shall develop guidelines for
18 the treatment authorization request process for purposes of this
19 subdivision.